

THANK YOU JANE CLARK

By William Gallois Director of Research.

As most readers of this newsletter will be aware, we are soon going to be saying goodbye to Jane Clark as a colleague. While we expect to continue to collaborate with Jane on exhibitions and other activity, I know that I will speak for all staff at the Institute in setting out some of the ways in which we are grateful for Jane's work at Exeter: Working closely with Jane, the thing which has impressed me the most has been her deep sense of loyalty to the Institute and her commitment to our work. It may be unfashionable to speak of work as a calling, but this is one of the only ways in which I can explain how much Jane has given of herself on our behalf. Her exhibitions have drawn broad audiences into the Institute, promoting a richer and more complex picture of the region than is available in the culture at large; her collaborations with artists and calligraphers have introduced students, schoolchildren and us to the practice of art as well as its analysis; her commitment to our research success and our growth as a team of researchers has always been absolute, and she is the ultimate team player in the sense that she has never wished to take the credit for many of the successes we have enjoyed under her. She has also, of course, needed to be tenacious and driven to make many of these things happen for us, and I know that I speak for a long line of directors of research in thinking of Jane as a defender of the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies. She has always been a believer in what we do here and we have been lucky to have worked alongside such a champion of our field of study. Thank you Jane.

AWARDS/PRIZES

Professor Robert Gleave: Understanding Religion and Law:

Muslims, Fatwas and Muftis in the UK. *This short, six month project, aims to examine how British Muslims obtain religious and legal advice (fatwas) from traditional legal experts (muftis), and how this advice is used by those seeking advice in their religious and community life. It follows on from the successful URL: Understanding Religion and Law GW4 Initiator project, and the objective is to use the funds to establish the project on a longer term basis. The principal investigator is Robert Gleave, with Co-Investigators Mustafa Baig (Exeter), Sophie Gilliat-Ray (Cardiff) and Julian Rivers (Bristol). Tayyeb Mimouni is the postdoctoral research assistant attached to the project. The project will also convene a number of workshops and research fieldwork visits. The total grant award is £31,384.*

IAA. Dr Lise Storm: *was awarded an ESRC IAA award together with Hendeik Kraetzschmaar at Leeds for the project 'Aid in the Age of ISIS'. They have just been awarded a small follow-up grant from Leeds (£700) so they can continue the project into 2017.*

New appointments

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of the new staff joining us this term.

They are:

Professor Timothy Insoll, Al-Qasimi Professor of African and Islamic Archaeology.

Dr Katie Natanel, Lecturer in Gender Studies.

Dr Mustafa Baig, Lecturer in Islamic Studies.

Dr Marc Owen-Jones, Postdoctoral Research Fellow.

Dr Ross Porter, Postdoctoral Research Fellow.

Dr Abdelghani (Tayyeb) Mimouni, Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Islamic Studies.

Omar Anchassi, is Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Islamic Studies.

Nikki Clews, Senior Administrator (Pre-Award).

Profiles of all IAIS staff can be found at www.exeter.ac.uk/socialsciences/iais/staff

Publications

István T. Kristó-Nagy, "Conflict and cooperation between Arab rulers and Persian administrators in the formative period of Islamdom, c.600 – c.950 ce", in Peter Crooks and Timothy Parsons (eds), *Empires and Bureaucracy in World History: From Late Antiquity to the Twentieth Century*, Cambridge University Press, 2016, pp. 54-80.

Robert Gleave and István T. Kristó-Nagy, *Violence in Islamic Thought from the Qur'an to the Mongols*, Edinburgh University Press, 2016, 288 pages. <https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/book-violence-in-islamic-thought-from-the-qur-an-to-the-mongols-10532.html>

István T. Kristó-Nagy, "Violence, Our Inherent Heritage", in Robert Gleave and István T. Kristó-Nagy, *Violence in Islamic Thought from the Qur'an to the Mongols*, Edinburgh University Press, 2015, ISBN 978 – 0748694235, pp. 2-17.

István T. Kristó-Nagy, "Who Instigated Violence? A Rebellious Devil, or a Vengeful God", in Robert Gleave and István T. Kristó-Nagy, *Violence in Islamic Thought from the Qur'an to the Mongols*, Edinburgh University Press, 2015, ISBN 978 – 0748694235, pp. 93-105.

R. Gleave, "Conceptions of the Literal Sense (Zāhir; Ḥaḳīqa) in Muslim interpretive thought" in M. Cohen and A. Berlin (eds) *Interpreting Scriptures in Judaism, Christianity and Islam: Overlapping Inquiries* (Cambridge University Press, 2016), pp.183-203

R. Gleave, "Modern Shiite Legal Theory and the Classical Tradition" in E. Kendall and A. Khan (eds) *Reclaiming Islamic Tradition: Modern Interpretations of the Classical Heritage* (EUP, 2016), pp.12-32

A. Mallett, 'The Muslim Memory of the Crusades', in M. Cassidy-Welch (ed.), *Remembering the Crusades and Crusading* (London: Routledge, 2016), 216-230.

Dionisius A. Agius, John P. Cooper, Lucy Semaan, Chiara Zazzaro, and Robert Carter, "Remembering the Sea: Personal and Communal Recollections of Maritime Life in Jizan and the Farasan Islands, Saudi Arabia", *Journal of Maritime Archaeology*, volume 11 (2016), pp. 127-177.

S. Mervin, R. Gleave and G. Chatelard, al-Najaf al-Tārikh wa-l-Taṭawwur al-Madīna al-Muqaddisā (Unesco; al-Warrak, 2016) **with chapters:** R. Gleave and S. Mervin, "Muqaddima:al-Najaf al-Madīna al-Muqaddisa", pp.13-26 and R. Gleave, "Al-Najaf: Hujja Ta'limiyya wa-baḥṭhiyya bāriza", pp.157-175 [English edition to be published by Ithaca next year]

Sajjad Rizvi, *The Spirit and the Letter: Approaches to the Esoteric Interpretation of the Qur'an* Edited by **Annabel Keeler and Sajjad H. Rizvi** <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/the-spirit-and-the-letter-9780198783336?cc=gb&lang=en>

Kumail Rajani, article accepted by OUP – forthcoming (recent PhD graduate) article "Hadith: Shi'i" for publication in *Oxford Bibliographies in Islamic Studies*.

Conferences, Seminars, Workshops and Events

Forthcoming:

The Centre for the Study of Islam, based in the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, brings together the core teaching staff in Islamic Studies, other staff who have an interest in Islamic culture and civilisation, and all interested postgraduate students (at MA and PhD level). We sponsor visiting speakers in Islamic Studies, hold regular seminars and conferences, and convene the Islamic Arabic Texts group.

All are welcome to our events, though those aiming to attend the Text group's session should be aware that competence in reading classical Arabic and Islamic texts in Arabic is assumed. To join the group and be on the mailing list, you should email Rob Gleave (rgleave@exeter.ac.uk).

IAIS Visiting Speaker Events:

Each Wednesday, the IAIS has a visiting speaker. Please contact Melanie Williams for details of upcoming events at m.j.williams2@exeter.ac.uk.

Past events:

2016 Exeter Gulf Conference. The Gulf and the Wider Middle East: Transnational Dynamics in Historical and Contemporary Perspectives, 22 – 23 August 2016 (convened by Marc Valeri, Enrica Fei, Niklas Haller and Gertjan Hoetjes). This Conference discussed questions related to the history of Gulf-wider Middle East relations, the increasing 'Gulfisation' of the Middle East and its long-term prospects. The keynote lecture was given by Professor Madawi Al-Rasheed [National University of Singapore] (<http://bit.ly/21bgTX3>).

Dr. Nadia Naser-Najjab participated in a parliamentary seminar organised by Palestinian Return Centre (PRC) On October 10 2016. She presented a paper entitled, 'The Two State Solution Discourse and the Issue of the Palestinian Refugees'. The event took

place inside the Attlee Suite of the UK Parliament to discuss the prospects of Palestinian refugees in Jordan. The event was hosted and chaired by Dr. Paul Monaghan MP of the Scottish National Party.

Link to the event: <http://www.prc.org.uk/portal/index.php/activities-news/workshop-seminar/3522-prc-successful-parliamentary-seminar-highlights-the-suffering-of-palestinian-refugees-in-jordan>

PhD Awards

Walead Mosaad, *Cumulative Islam and the Discursive Tradition: The Life and Works of Ahmad al-Dardir* – supervised by Ian Netton.

Hussah AlSenan, *The Change in Vocabularies of Freedoms and Rights in Egyptian Political Writings from al-Ṭaḥṭāwī until 1952* – supervised by Ian Netton.

Nafeesa Ismail Haji, *Experimentalism and Innovation in the Kurdish Short Story in Bahdīnā since 1991* – supervised by Christine Allison.

Salah Albanna: *From the Coast of Oman to the United Arab Emirates: Attempting to Federate the Emirates* – supervised by Marc Valeri and Professor Abdulkhaleq Abdulla (UAE University).

Tayyeb Mimouni: *Debating al-Hākimiyyah and Takfīr in Salafism: The Genesis of Intra-Salafī Schisms in the 1990s* – The examiners were Ian Netton (internal) and Jan Peter Hartung (SOAS).